

# STATION MASTER

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## BGSD Maintenance Staff Breathes New Life Into #141



*The Bluegrass Station Division Maintenance Staff*

Have you ever heard the saying, “The whole is greater than the sum of its parts?” These words recently came to life when Bluegrass Station Division’s (BGSD’s) maintenance staff renovated a World War II radar equipment testing facility into a large mechanic’s shop with offices and classrooms.

Building 141 is one of the silver hangars located near the helipad. It was built in 1941 during the initial base construction and was made entirely of wood and non-metallic materials, except for nails. Once radar testing ceased, the building was vacant until a tenant leased it from July 2000 to June 2002 for storage use.

This past July, when a prospective tenant expressed interest in having the building renovated to a mechanic’s shop by November, the Division’s maintenance team didn’t allow the toll that the years had taken on the building to deter them, even when members had their doubts. Bob Hunt, the Division’s Mechanical Maintenance Operations Manager, summarized

the team’s thoughts and actions best.

“When the project was first announced the group had some skepticism as to whether it could even be done. But everyone jumped in and completed the job on time.”

The antiquated, dim lights were replaced with modern mercury vapor lamps. Limited electrical service was increased to provide needed power. Several workspaces were added along the walls, each one complete with air and electrical hookups for machinery and tools. Both side annexes to the building were completely remodeled into offices, classrooms, and a restroom. The building was also made accessible to disabled persons.

This was quite the feat considering the condition of the building and the fact that the customer needed to change the specifications a couple of times during the project, not to mention other difficulties that arose. Bob Hunt said, “A major problem was the removal of a large boiler from the basement.”



*Basement stairway*

The only access to the basement is a narrow stairway that leads to a small door. The basement’s confined area made it impossible for staff to use power equipment. Since the boiler was too large to fit through the door, the team had to sledgehammer it into pieces and carry each one up the steps.

Even bad weather threatened to

hamper the project when an electrical contractor was delayed.

However, the Division’s electricians stepped up and provided temporary power so that work could continue.

Dave Jones, Carpentry and Paint Shop Maintenance Section Supervisor, also spoke about the challenges the crew faced. “It is over sixty feet to the top of



*Halfway through the process*

the ceiling and getting someone up that high to paint is difficult. Also, the orders changed a couple of times in the middle of the job.” Nevertheless, the carpenters and painters met their deadline for remodeling the building and annexes with new windows, drywall, paint and flooring.

Thus, a department that was once



*Finished office space*

skeptical came together as a team and made a difficult task a successful project. That’s what makes them so exceptional at what they do – and that’s why the “Station Master” honors them in this issue.

## Building 141 - Before and After!



*Interior was similar to this photo of Building 140*



*Inside hangar after renovation*



*Roughed-out office space*

*Photos by J. Eggum and P. Johnson*



# From the desk of the Director...

## TO THE BLUEGRASS STATION FAMILY OF TENANTS AND EMPLOYEES

It's been a happy holiday season for Bluegrass Station Division! Take a look at some of the "gifts" that we have received since the last newsletter:

*Cabot Jahnigen signed a lease for Building 152 as of July 1<sup>st</sup> for storage purposes.*

*The Special Operations Forces Support Activity (SOFSA) expanded its space by leasing Building 141 (see related article on previous page) effective August 1<sup>st</sup>.*

*Randell Courtney and John Hawkins began leasing a bay in Building 101 on August 1<sup>st</sup> for custom woodworking and storage purposes.*

*The Kentucky Logistics Operation Center (KyLOC) started its lease of 96,250 square feet of lot space on November 1<sup>st</sup>.*

*Skinner Modular, owned by Connie Skinner, began leasing Building 156 on December 1<sup>st</sup> to assemble modular homes.*

*Vector Precision signed a lease for a bay and office space in Building 101 effective December 1<sup>st</sup> to distribute defense assemblies, parts, metals, and repair parts.*

*The Bluegrass Regional Recycling Corporation (BRRC) made Building 138 its corporate headquarters on December 16<sup>th</sup> and is signing the lease for a bay in Building 101. BRRC outlines processes and final products from recycled materials.*

*We are finalizing lease negotiations with at least one other organization.*

*Current tenant L3 Communications has asked us to begin construction of two buildings within the next sixty days.*

The Division is especially excited about the last gift we mentioned above! Our "wish list" includes more new building construction. Our goal is to continue the expansion of Bluegrass Station's workforce and new buildings can help us do that!

Another item on the "wish list" is for tenants and employees to permanently attach the recently distributed 2003 windshield decal(s) to the outside top center or lower left corner (the driver's side of most vehicles) of the front windshield. (The business tenants and employees have one decal for 2003 and the residential tenants have two.) Failure to permanently attach the decals to one's windshield will result in delayed entry to the Station.

In advance, thanks for your cooperation with my efforts to tighten security. Although the facility is no longer a Department of Defense installation, Bluegrass Station does have defense and defense-related tenants who require the added security in light of current world tensions.

On a different note, thanks to the great numbers of you who donated canned and boxed items to the food drive for God's Pantry. Your generosity has helped to make this what we think is our most successful collection to date! I'll be sure to include the figures in the next edition of the "Station Master."

Until then, all of us with Bluegrass Station Division wish you a happy holiday season!

### FOR LEASE

Building	Description
4.....	Offices / Warehouse
16.....	Storage / Light Industry
17.....	Storage / Light Industry
107.....	Small Warehouse
228.....	Small Warehouse / Office

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